tractors trailors, buses and carts are plying on the Indian roads without back light, resulting in fatal accidents; if so, whether Government would consider to make such violations congnizable offences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Government have already framed appropriate rules under provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act which provide for necessary instructions regarding safe transportation of hazardous goods. Apropriate instructions are issued to the State Government from time to time to ensure proper implementation of these regulations. Violation of these norms is punishable both in terms of Motor Vehicles Act and other relevant laws of the land.

(c) The condition of road can be one of the causative factors in such accidents. However, development and maintenance of National Highways/Expressways is a continuous process and subject to the availability of funds, various schemes are approved and implemented for improving the conditions of roads.

(d) No, Sir. the Central Motor Vehicle Rules provide for fitment of signalling devices, direction indicators, stop lights, lamps (both front and rear), reflection lights, parking light, spot light etc. for different type of vehicles as per their dimensions. Violation of any of these requirements is also a punishable offence.

Maintenance of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

2625. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual amount released so far for the maintenance and repair of National Highways during 1994-95; and

(b) what portion of the distressed stretches of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh still remains to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A sum of Rs. 1588.98 lakhs has been released so far to the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for maintenance and repair of National Highways during 1994-95.

(b) Maintenance of the distressed stretches of the National Highways is a continuous process which is done within the available funds to keep the roads in traffic worthy condition.

'Pollution Under Check' Rule For Diesel Vehicles

2626. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pollution Under Check (PUC) rule is not applicable to diesel vehicles;

(b) if so, what is the mechanism by which the pollution of diesel vehicles would be kept under check; and

(c) what are the reasons for excluding diesel vehicles from PUC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

गुजरात में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों का रख-रखाव

2627. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की लम्बाई कितनी है;

(ख) राज्य में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के किन-किन खंडों में बाढ़ और तूफान के कारण हानि पहुंचने की संभावना रहती है;

(ग) इन्हें प्राकृतिक आपदाओं से बचाने के लिए